

## California and Western Medicine

Official Organ of the California and Nevada Medical Associations

Owned and Published by the

**CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

FOUR FIFTY SUTTER, ROOM 2004, SAN FRANCISCO

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**Advertisements.**—The journal is published on the seventh of the month. Advertising copy must be received not later than the 15th of the month preceding issue. Advertising rates will be sent on request.

**BUSINESS MANAGER . FREDERICK C. WARNSHUIS**

Advertising Representative for Northern California

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Subscription prices, \$5.00 (\$6.00 for foreign countries); single copies, 50 cents.

Volumes begin with the first of January and the first of July. Subscriptions may commence at any time.

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## EDITORIALS\*

### ANNUAL SESSION AT YOSEMITE: MAY 13-16

**Final Plea for Attendance.**—This is a "last call" for the annual session of the California Medical Association, to be held this year at Yosemite National Park, commencing Monday, May 13 and continuing through Thursday, May 16.

Last month's issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE contained the complete scientific and other programs, together with the "Pre-Convention Bulletin" reports of officers and committees; and it is to be hoped that the information therein has already induced many members, who had not contemplated attendance, to change their plans and go. All that has been said of the anticipated pleasure and value of this year's annual session still holds true. Members of the Association, therefore, who are in doubt about going to Yosemite are urged to scan again the April issue program and, while still under the spell of the attractions noted, to pack their grips, preparatory to joining their fellows in what promises to be a well-attended series of noteworthy meetings.

\* Editorials on subjects of scientific and clinical interest, contributed by members of the California Medical Association, are printed in the Editorial Comments column, which follows.

### CALIFORNIA'S HEALTH INSURANCE BILL (S. B. 454)

**Health Insurance Commission Act (S. B. 454) Introduced on April 12.**—The *Senate Daily Journal* of the forty-sixth legislative day (April 12, 1935), contained 197 pages, all but twenty-five of which were given over to a discussion of the need of a proposed law (embodied in Senate Bill 454), providing for "State Health Insurance Service, including the establishing of a Health Insurance Commission and prescribing the powers. . . ." The 172 pages contained a draft of S. B. 454, printing, on pages 38 to 55, some sixteen pages of amendments to the original skeleton bill.<sup>1</sup> Many more amendments will be introduced, no doubt. Mention is made of this to indicate how difficult it is to whip into form a measure such as this, for which so much pioneering must be done in order to make the plan conform both to American legal procedures and also the standards of American civilization and custom.

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**An Outline of the Health Insurance Topics Discussed in the Senate Daily Journal.**—In turning the pages of the *Senate Daily Journal*, the "Report of the Senate Committee on Investigation of the High Cost of Sickness" is found to contain a large number of items, the nature of which may be judged by the following list:

Page 23: Report to the Senate by the Interim Committee, under date of April 12, 1935.

Page 27: Remarks on "How Can the Legislature Bring Hospital Service within the Reach of Persons of Average Income?"

Page 28: "Facts Found by the California Medical Economic Survey."

Page 34: Remarks on "Economy Security and Health Insurance."

Page 38: Amendments to Senate Bill 454.<sup>2</sup>

Page 55:<sup>3</sup> Appendix A—"Is Health Insurance Coming to California?" Address given by Senator E. H. Tickle at the University of California Western Conference on Government, Thursday, March 28, 1934.

Page 58: Appendix B—"Opening Statement by Senator Edward H. Tickle at Public Hearing of Senate Committee on Investigation of the High Cost of Sickness held Friday, December 14, 1934, State Building, Civic Center, San Francisco, California."

Page 102: Appendix C—Miscellaneous Resolutions by Interim Committee, California Medical Association House of Delegates and other organizations.

Page 105: Appendix D—"California Medical-Economic Survey."<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Senate Bill 454 was introduced as a "skeleton" bill on January 25, 1935, as follows: "An Act to provide for the establishment and administration of a system of health insurance for persons in certain income groups."

The new title, as amended on April 15, 1935, now reads: "An Act to provide for the establishment and administration of a system of State Health Service Insurance, including the establishing of a Health Service Insurance Commission and prescribing the powers, duties and functions thereof, the establishing of a Health Service Insurance Fund and providing for certain payments thereto, the prescribing of methods and conditions under which professional or other services may be rendered, the regulation of certain persons, firms, associations, and corporations, the making of an appropriation, the enforcement of the provisions hereof, penalties for the violation of the provisions hereof, and repealing acts in conflict herewith."

<sup>2</sup> Pages 38 to 55, inclusive, cover Senate Bill 454, as amended and submitted by Senators Williams, Tickle, and Difani.

<sup>3</sup> Pages 55 to 195 are appendices, presumably prepared by the Coordinator—Secretary of the Interim Committee, Celestine J. Sullivan, LL.D.

<sup>4</sup> This contains selected facts from the report of the survey staff of the Committee of Five of the California Medical Association and the field survey of the California State Board of Health. Twenty-six tables are included in this section.